Docket No.: 21713-00033-US1

Examiner: A. C. Johnstone

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Daisuke Kanenari et al.

Application No.: 10/588,102 Confirmation No.: 4327

Filed: July 31, 2006 Art Unit: 1791

For: RUBBER/SHORT FIBER MASTER BATCH AND PRODUCTION METHOD THEREOF AND PNEUMATIC TIRES USING SUCH

MASTER BATCH

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed April 6, 2009, Applicant hereby elects, without traverse, the invention identified by the Examiner as Group II, and drawn to a method for producing a rubber/short fiber masterbatch for continued examination. Claims 4-6 and 15 are directed to the elected invention.

Claims 1-3, 1-14 and 16-20 are drawn to non-elected inventions and may be cancelled by the Examiner upon the allowance of the claims directed to the elected invention.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance

In the event, the examiner believes that an interview would advance the prosecution of this application in any way the undersigned attorney is available at the phone number noted below.

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Please charge any fees due with this paper to our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21713-00033-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: May 7, 2009 Respectfully submitted,

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